



ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

St. Jerome's University in the University of Waterloo
Department of Italian & French Studies
ITALST 291 Fall 2022 ONLINE
Italian Culture/s and Civilization/s I:
Medieval and Renaissance Periods

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Roberta Cauchi-Santoro
Office Hours: By appointment on Bongo Virtual Classroom (please send me email to book appointment). Alternatively, you can come to my office Sweeney Hall SH 2211 Mondays and Wednesdays 11 30am-12 30pm.
Email: rcauchis@uwaterloo.ca

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course broadly explores the Italian late Medieval and Renaissance periods (1280s- 1600). We discuss the history, art, architecture, philosophy, drama, marriage conventions, urge for exploration, politics, and music that mark these epochs. Attention will also be given to the late Medieval and early Renaissance conception of the human body as manifested through the theatrical arts, specifically the emerging erudite comedy and humour.

COURSE DELIVERY

The course will be delivered online. (Optional) 60-minute bi-weekly lectures are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays (9am- 10am EST). The WebEX lectures are scheduled under the WebEX widget in LEARN>Course Home. Please click on the home page> webEx widget and then on the scheduled lecture. Alternatively, here is the link:

<https://uwaterloo.webex.com/uwaterloo/j.php?MTID=me02751e0ae85b68097d2bce7687c5f81>

All recordings will be made available on announcements. The first lecture will be held on Thursday 8th September at 9am. In order to keep up with the course

content, students are also expected to complete Quizzes (on Fridays) and discussions (on Sundays) due each week (starting on the second week of classes).

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

1. Understand the fundamental terms and concepts that mark the development of the late Medieval and Renaissance periods in the Italian peninsula.
2. Develop a framework that will enable reflection on the literature, particularly comedy, art, architecture, philosophy and music produced in the Italian peninsula from the late medieval period to the Renaissance.
3. Assess critically key themes used with reference to Italian medieval and Renaissance culture/s.
4. Articulate informed arguments about the development of the Italian medieval and Renaissance periods in relation to the literature, theatre, history, politics, music, social mores, art and architecture that mark these periods.

REQUIRED TEXTS

- Boccaccio, Giovanni. *Decameron*. Trans. Wayne A. Rebhorn. Norton & Norton, 2013 (full, unabridged version)

-Machiavelli, Niccolò. *The Prince*. Trans. William K. Marriott. UK: William Collins, 2018 (any paperback or used version of Machiavelli's *The Prince* will do)

-All other required texts, documentaries, and films will be available on COURSE RESERVES (or, occasionally, on the weekly announcements). Please note that to access COURSE RESERVES, you need to go on the home page of the LEARN Italst 291 F22 site and scroll to the very bottom, then click on course reserves.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSESSMENT

During the term, students will be asked to complete the following components:

- **Discussions on Learn (10%):** Active participation in weekly discussions (which start on the second week of the term) constitutes an

integral part of the course. The mark for weekly discussions will be based on the quality of the weekly contributions, the effort demonstrated in attempting to make connections, grapple with the issues discussed, and the level of engagement with peers in the discussions. Each weekly discussion opens on Monday 12:01am and closes on Sunday 1159pm.

- **Weekly Quizzes on LEARN (15%).** These 10 quizzes (1.5% each) will assess the basic knowledge of the topics presented in the LEARN units, the weekly readings/films, and during recorded video lectures, and should be completed on LEARN QUIZZES each Friday starting on the second Friday of the term. Each Quiz will be available from 12:01 am to 11:59 pm Eastern time on the Friday when they are released. The maximum time allowed to complete the quiz is two hours. Please make sure that once you start the quiz, you complete it and submit it before 11 59pm. You cannot save the quiz and get back to it later in the day.
- **Final Paper Outline (5%). Due on October 27th.**

The final paper outline should be no less than 500 words and it should outline the introduction, development of the main points in the line of argumentation, and conclusion of the essay. The specific primary texts (or films) to be analyzed should be clearly mentioned. The secondary sources to be used to bolster one's argument should be specifically listed (full bibliographic entries). An explanation should follow as to why these secondary sources have been chosen.
- **Midterm test (20%).** The Midterm exam tests the material covered up to the lecture before the day of this examination. Students have 24 hours (from 12:01 am to 11:59 pm Eastern time) on Thursday **October 20th** to complete and upload the test to the midterm DROPBOX on LEARN. The test consists of a series of short answer questions.

- **Final paper due on November 20th 2022 (25%)**. A list of suggested topics for the final paper has been provided. Students wishing to discuss a topic of their choice must obtain the professor's permission.

Important information about the University of Waterloo Writing Centre will be posted on announcements (LEARN) and it is advisable to use all the available help on campus to work on improving your writing. This is a course which is meant to strengthen the student's overall writing skills.

Format: detailed rubric of the essay is available on LEARN. **Final papers must be typed and double-spaced using Times New Roman (12pt.) font. The essay should be around 3,000 words long excluding citations. Formatting and citations should follow the MLA style guide.**

Grading will be based on the following criteria (consult rubric for further details):

- Relevance of content and clarity of ideas
 - Evidence of critical thinking
 - Logical organization of thoughts
 - Sound Grammar, spelling and vocabulary
 - Evidence of further research carried out by the student, formatting and adherence to MLA style guide.
- **Final Test on Tuesday December 6th (25%)**. This test will only assess the students' knowledge of the material covered after the midterm test (included the lesson held on October 20th). Students have 24 hours (from 12:01 am to 11:59 pm Eastern time) to complete the test. The final test will consist of a series of short answer questions.
 - **Readings**: Each week, specific readings (consult course schedule below) are scheduled in the syllabus. Kindly read the scheduled readings by their due

date (except for the first lesson) and come to class prepared for discussion. Most readings/films/ documentaries are available on COURSE RESERVES unless they are one of the two textbooks you need to purchase. A few other readings will be available on the weekly announcements. Other links to relevant videos are available in the LEARN units. In the schedule below, please note that you are told whether the reading is available on course reserves or on announcements. The other (supplementary) videos assigned (with links available in the LEARN units) are most valuable as background information in order to facilitate contextualization of readings and discussions.

COURSE SCHEDULE

| Week | Date | Topic | Readings/Viewings Due | Assessment Due |
|------|--|--|---|----------------|
| 1 | Thursday September 8th | Course introduction | <p>WATCH: video” From the Roman Empire to the Middle Ages”</p> <p>From the Roman Empire to the Middle Ages - ITALST 291 - Fall 2021 (uwaterloo.ca)</p> <p>READ: Chandler and Molinaro, chapter 3, “Italy in the Middle Ages” by Aldo Scaglione (course reserves)</p> <p>READ: LEARN UNIT 1</p> | N/A |
| 2 | Tuesday September 13 th | The LATE MEDIEVAL PERIOD: the 1300s Birth of Communes and the Mercantile | <p>WATCH: “Medieval Travels and the Pursuit of a NEW World’</p> <p>Medieval Travels and the Pursuit of a New World - ITALST 291 - Fall 2021</p> | |

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| | | Classes | (uwaterloo.ca) <u>READ:</u> Proem and Introduction to Boccaccio's <i>Decameron</i> (textbook to purchase) <u>READ:</u> LEARN UNIT 2 | |
| | Thursday September 15 th | | <u>Watch:</u> Taviani Brothers (2015) <i>Wondrous Boccaccio</i> (course reserves) | Weekly Quiz 1 on Learn (opens Friday 16th September at 12 01am and closes at 11 59pm) Discussion 1 due on Sunday 18th September (each discussion opens on Monday at 12:01am and closes every Sunday at 11 59pm) |
| 3 | Tuesday 20 th September | THE AUTUMN OF THE MEDIEVAL PERIOD AND PRE- HUMANISTIC REVIVAL Boccaccio's | <u>WATCH:</u> video "From the Late Middle Ages to Humanism" From Late Middle Ages to Humanism - ITALST 291 <u>READ:</u> Boccaccio's <i>Decameron</i> : Day I, Story 1; | |

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| | | <i>Decamerone</i> | Day II, St. 5; Day III, St. 1; Day IV, St. 5; (<i>textbook</i>) <u>READ:</u> LEARN UNIT 3 | |
| | Thursday 22 nd September | | Day V, St 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10; Day VI, St. 7; Day VII, St. 2; Day IX, St. 2; Conclusion and Author’s Epilogue. (<i>textbook</i>) <u>WATCH:</u> Pier Paolo Pasolini’s <i>Decamerone</i> (1971) (link on announcements) | Weekly quiz (2) on Friday September 23 rd Learn Quizzes Discussion 2 due on Sunday 25 th September |
| 4 | Tuesday 27 th September | HUMANISM as the catalyst of the Renaissance ART AND ARCHITECTURE | <u>READ:</u> Chandler and Molinaro chapter 4 “The Renaissance in Italy” by Olga Zorzi Pugliese (available on announcements) Chapter on Renaissance Art and Architecture from John D. Wright <i>The Renaissance: The Cultural Rebirth of Europe</i> , pp. 25-51. (course reserves) <u>READ:</u> UNIT LEARN 4 <u>Watch:</u> Crash course on Humanism (link in LEARN UNIT 4) | |
| | Thursday 29 th September | The Renaissance Polyglot <i>UOMO</i> <i>UNIVERSALE:</i> Leonardo da Vinci | <u>WATCH:</u> Exhibition on Screen - Leonardo Kanopy <u>WATCH:</u> | Weekly Quiz 3 on Learn Quizzes on Friday 30 th September |

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| | | | NOVA: Decoding da Vinci Kanopy (links in LEARN unit 4) | Discussion 3 due on Sunday 2 nd October |
| 5 | Tuesday 4 th October | Renaissance Marriages: Florence in the 1400s Marriage in <i>Quattrocento</i> Florence | <u>READ:</u> Gene Brucker <i>Giovanni and Lusanna</i> reading (course reserves) | |
| | Thursday 6 th October | | <u>READ:</u> Cohen & Cohen, <i>Daily Life in Renaissance Italy</i> . 2 nd .ed. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood, 2019, pp. 51-86. (ebook on course reserves) <u>READ:</u> LEARN Unit 5 | Weekly quiz (4) due on October 7th Discussion 4 due on October 7th (due to reading week starting on October 8th) |
| | | <u>READING WEEK October 8th- 16th 2022</u> | | |
| 6 | Tuesday October 18 th | Renaissance Treatise- writing | <u>READ: Baldassare Castiglione <i>The Courtier</i> Book 3</u> (course reserves) <u>READ: “The Historical Context of Renaissance Philosophy” by Copenhaver and Schmitt</u> (course reserves) <u>READ:</u> LEARN UNIT 6 | |

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| | <p>Thursday October 20th</p> <p>MIDTERM TEST 25%</p> | <p>Treatises and Courtesans</p> | <p>READ: Tullia D’Aragona <i>Dialogue on the Infinity of Love</i> (course reserves)</p> <p>WATCH: <i>Dangerous Beauty</i> (1997)</p> <p>(course reserves)</p> | <p>Weekly Quiz 5 on Friday October 21st on Learn Quizzes</p> <p>Discussion 5 due on Sunday 23rd October MIDTERM TEST (25%)</p> |
| 7 | <p>October 25th</p> | <p>Renaissance Courts, The <i>sacre rappresentazioni</i>, the latin humanist comedy and the birth of the erudite comedy</p> | <p>WATCH: video “Renaissance Courts in Italy” Italian Renaissance Courts Courtesy Prof. Cottini - ITALST 291</p> <p>READ: “Italy in the 16th century” by Richard Andrews</p> <p>(course reserves)</p> | |
| | <p>October 27th</p> <p>FINAL PAPER OUTLINE</p> | | <p>READ: Introduction in “Playing the Renaissance” in <i>Five Comedies from the Italian Renaissance</i> by Giannetti and Ruggero.</p> <p>(on announcements)</p> <p>READ: LEARN UNIT 7</p> | <p>Weekly Quiz 6 on Friday 28th October on Learn Quizzes</p> <p>Discussion 6 due on Sunday 30th October</p> <p>FINAL PAPER OUTLINE DUE</p> |
| 8 | <p>Tuesday November 1st</p> | <p>Renaissance Courts-- Ferrara: the erudite comedy</p> | <p>WATCH: Italy in the 16th century</p> <p>The 16th century Renaissance. Political collapse and aesthetic rebirth #ItalianAges - YouTube</p> | |

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| | | | <p><u>READ:</u> Comedies from the Renaissance:</p> <p>Ludovico Ariosto: <i>Lena</i> (course reserves)</p> | |
| | Thursday November 3rd | The One-Sex Body on the Renaissance Stage | <p>Bernardo Dovizi da Bibbiena <i>La Calandria</i> (announcements)</p> <p>Thomas Lacquer, <i>Making Sex</i>. Chapter Two (course reserves)</p> <p><u>READ:</u> LEARN Unit 8</p> | <p>Weekly Quiz 7 on Friday November 4th Learn</p> <p>Discussion 7 due on Sunday November 6th</p> |
| 9 | Tuesday November 8th | Renaissance Politics | <p><u>READ:</u> Renaissance Politics:</p> <p>Machiavelli <i>The Prince</i> (chapters 1-14) (textbook to purchase)</p> <p><u>WATCH:</u> https://uwaterloo.kanopy.com/video/chapter-1</p> | |
| | Thursday November 10 th | | <p><u>READ:</u> Machiavelli <i>The Prince</i> (chapters 15-26) (textbook)</p> <p><u>READ:</u> LEARN UNIT 9</p> | <p>Weekly Quiz 8 on Friday November 11th Learn Quizzes</p> <p>Discussion 8 due on Sunday November 13th.</p> |

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| 10 | Tuesday November 15 th | Renaissance Satire: Pietro Aretino:The Renaissance Scoundrel | <u>READ:</u> Pietro Aretino <i>The Master of the Horse</i> (course reserves) <u>READ:</u> LEARN UNIT 10 | |
| | Thursday November 17 th ESSAY/FINAL PAPER DUE (25%) on SUNDAY 20th NOVEMBER | | Pietro Aretino <i>The Master of the Horse</i> (course reserves) | Weekly Quiz 9 on Friday November 18 th Learn Quizzes Discussion 9 due on Sunday 20th November ESSAY/FINAL PAPER DUE (25%) on Sunday 20th November |
| 11 | Tuesday 22 nd November | Renaissance Cities: Rome | <u>READ:</u> Mayernik, David. <i>Timeless Cities: An Architect’s Reflections on Renaissance Italy</i> , pp.15-89. (course reserves) <u>READ:</u> Marco Antonio Piana’s “Gods in the Garden: Visions of the Pagan Other in the Rome of Julius II” (course reserves) | |
| | Thursday 24 th November | Venice | <u>WATCH:</u> Renaissance Venice: More Serene Republic Kanopy | Weekly Quiz 10 on Learn due Friday 25 th |

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| | | | <u>READ:</u> LEARN UNIT 11 | November Discussion 10 due Sunday 27 th November MOCK FINAL TEST UPLOADED |
| 12 | Tuesday 29 th November | Renaissance Epic in the Este Court in Ferrara | <u>READ:</u> <i>L'Orlando Furioso</i> Cantos 22-25 (course reserves) <u>READ:</u> J. Chimène Bateman <i>Amazonian Knots: Gender, Genre, and Ariosto's Women Warriors</i> MLN, Vol. 122, No. 1, Italian Issue (Jan., 2007), pp. 1-23 (course reserves) | |
| | Thursday 1 st December | The Birth of Opera in the Gonzaga Court of Mantua | <u>WATCH:</u> The birth of melodrama and opera contextualized- Between High Renaissance and Baroque - ITALST 291 - <u>WATCH:</u> Sacred Music in a Secular World Kanopy <u>READ:</u> LEARN UNIT 12 | |
| | TUESDAY DECEMBER 6th FINAL TEST | | | FINAL TEST (25%) |

POLICY ON LATE WORK, MISSED ASSIGNMENTS, AND MAKE-UP TESTS

All assignments must be uploaded by due dates (when drop-boxes will lock). Any work you need to submit past the due date requires documentation in order not to be subject to the late work policy (please inform about any work to be submitted late and provide documentation in a timely manner). Work submitted late will be penalized 2% per day up to 7 days after due date. After 7 days, no work will be accepted

CORRESPONDENCE

Students are expected to stay abreast of communication about the course through LEARN. Every Monday, I will post the weekly beginning-of-the-week announcement (on LEARN announcements) which specifies what work to complete for the specific week. The weekly discussion topic opens every Monday at 12 01am, starting on the second week of classes, and remains open until 11 59pm of Sunday night. The weekly quizzes are held on Fridays, starting on the second Friday of the term. The weekly quiz opens on a Friday at 12:01am and closes on the same day at 11 59pm.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Important note on PLAGIARISM during COVID 19:

During COVID 19, the issue of plagiarism has become increasingly pressing. Please understand the various forms that plagiarism may take and that it is a very serious academic offence.

According to the University's Policy 71 (Student Discipline), plagiarism is defined as "...the act of presenting the ideas, words, or other intellectual property of another as one's own. The use of other people's work must be properly acknowledged and referenced in all written material.... Use of [source material] without complete and unambiguous acknowledgement...is an offence under this policy."

According to UW's Office of Academic Integrity, here are some (though not all) of the types of plagiarism that constitute an academic offence:

- Word-for-word use of part or all of any written work (print or electronic) without quotation marks and/or without citation of the source (footnotes,

endnotes, or parenthetical citations) and/or without a complete 'works cited' section.

- Word-for-word use of text spans (phrases, sentences, paragraphs, longer segments) patched together from two or more sources without quotation marks and/or without citation of the source and/or without a complete bibliography.
- Word-for-word use of primary source materials without quotation marks and/or without citation of the source and/or without a complete bibliography.
- Word-for-word use of source materials with some text enclosed by quotation marks and provided with citations, but with other text not identified as quoted, and/or not cited, and/or without a complete bibliography.
- Combination of word-for-word use of sources with close paraphrases of source texts, with accurate use of quotation marks and citations (note or parenthetical) to identify word-for-word use, but without citations to identify paraphrases and summaries, and/or without a complete 'works cited'.
- Completely paraphrased material without complete citations and/or without a complete 'works cited'.
- Giving a citation for only the first or last sentence in a paragraph, even though the rest of the paragraph also contains material in need of direct attribution.

In general: A complete and accurate works cited page constitutes only one part of the fulfilment of the requirement for complete and unambiguous acknowledgement of sources. A very large proportion of plagiarized essays do have perfectly or nearly adequate works cited pages. If the paper's reader has to go to (or hunt for), and has to look directly at, the text of the source in order to identify where the student's own thoughts and words end and the source's thoughts and words begin, then the paper is plagiarized.

Intellectual Property: Students should be aware that this course contains the intellectual property of their instructor, and/or St. Jerome's University. Intellectual property includes items such as: 1. Lecture content, spoken and written (and any audio/video recording thereof); 2. Lecture handouts, presentations, and other materials prepared for the course (e.g., PowerPoint slides); 3 Questions or solution sets from various types of assessments (e.g., assignments, quizzes, mock tests, final exams); and 4. Work protected by copyright (e.g., any work authored by the

instructor or TA or used by the instructor or TA with permission of the copyright owner).

Course materials and the intellectual property contained therein, are used to enhance a student's educational experience. However, sharing this intellectual property without the intellectual property owner's permission is a violation of intellectual property rights. For this reason, it is necessary to ask the instructor, and/or St. Jerome's University for permission before uploading and sharing the intellectual property of others online (e.g., to an online repository).

Permission from the instructor or the University is also necessary before sharing the intellectual property of others from completed courses with students taking the same/similar courses in subsequent terms/years.

Please alert the instructor if you become aware of intellectual property belonging to others (past or present) circulating, either through the student body or online. The intellectual property rights owner deserves to know.

Academic Integrity: In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Check www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/ for more information.

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of their university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read the St. Jerome's University Policy on [Student Petitions and Grievances](#). When in doubt, please be certain to contact the St. Jerome's Advising Specialist, Student Affairs Office, who will provide further assistance.

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing an academic offence, and to take responsibility for their actions. Check www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/ for more information. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about "rules" for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course instructor, academic advisor, or the Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under the St. Jerome's University Policy on [Student Discipline](#). For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students should refer to University of Waterloo [Policy 71, Student](#)

Discipline. For typical penalties, check the [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties](#).

Appeals: A decision made or penalty imposed under the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Discipline may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes they have a ground for an appeal should refer to the St. Jerome's University Policy on [Student Appeals](#).

Note for students with disabilities: [AccessAbility Services](#), located in Needles Hall (Room 1401) at the University of Waterloo, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with AccessAbility Services at the beginning of each academic term.

Mental Health Support on campus and in the community: Please be aware that SJU offers help to students who need mental health support during the semester. The UWaterloo Faculty of Arts provides details on available support on its website.

Turnitin.com: Text matching software ([Turnitin®](#)) may be used to screen assignments in this course. Turnitin® is used to verify that all materials and sources in assignments are documented. Students' submissions are stored on a U.S. server, therefore students must be given an alternative (e.g., scaffolded assignment or annotated bibliography), if they are concerned about their privacy and/or security. Students will be given due notice, in the first week of the term and/or at the time assignment details are provided, about arrangements and alternatives for the use of Turnitin® in this course. It is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor if they, in the first week of term or at the time assignment details are provided, wish to submit the alternate assignment.